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THOMAS F. MCFARLAND

September 19, 2008

By e-filing

Anne K. Quinlan, Esq
Acting Secretary
Surface Transportation Board
395 E Street, S.W., Suite 1149
Washington, DC 20024

Re Docket No. AB-497 (Sub-No 4X), *Minnesota Northern Railroad, Inc --
Abandonment Exemption -- in Norman County, MN*

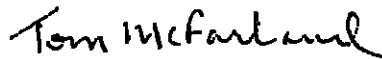
Dear Ms. Quinlan:

This refers to the letter to you dated September 10 from Mr. Dale Schoenborn, President of Fertile-Beltrami Sandhill Snowcruisers.

Mr. Schoenborn's letter requests a public use condition for the purpose of acquisition of the right-of-way for a recreational trail.

Petitioner is willing to negotiate with Mr. Schoenborn's organization for railbanking and interim recreational trail use of the right-of-way, but only if an appropriate request is made for a trail use condition rather than a public use condition.

Very truly yours,



Thomas F. McFarland
Attorney for Petitioner

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cc Mr. Dale Schoenborn
Mr. George LaPray